

Power reform in the capital

1250. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Prabhu cautions cabinet on reforms" which appeared in the Asian Age, New Delhi dated the 14th February, 2001;

(b) if so, the measures suggested on the much-needed reforms in power sector, particularly in the capital;

(c) whether any improvement in the on-going power crisis is anticipated in the capital during the coming summer; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTIMEHTA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In order to encourage reforms following important measures have been suggested:

- i. Accelerating the pace of rural electrification with a view to cover about 80,000 left out villages by 2007 with a thrust on extending coverage of rural households particularly those belonging to weaker sections and below poverty line.
- ii. Generation of a political consensus across party lines on power sector reforms.
- iii. A public awareness campaign to educate the public to generate greater understanding and support for reforms.
- iv. Negotiations with States for MOUs on Reforms.
- v. Support to States undertaking reforms.

In so far as the NCT of Delhi is concerned, the State Regulatory Commission has been set up in May, 1999 and is functioning. Delhi Vidyut Board (DVB) has submitted a proposal for rationalisation of tariff for the year 2000-01. the tariff proposal for the year 2001-02 effective from 1.4.2001 has been submitted to the Regulatory Commission.

Delhi Electricity Reforms Ordinance for restructuring the Power sector in Delhi was promulgated from 28.10.2000. The Delhi Legislative Assembly has passed the Electricity Reform Bill, 2000 on 23.11.2000. Accordingly DVB is

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proposed to be unbundled into one generation company, one transmission company, three distribution company and one holding company by the Government of NCT of Delhi. The distribution companies so created are proposed to be privatised by selling majority equity to private investors.

The supply and distribution of electricity in a State falls within the purview of the concerned State Government/State Electricity Board. The shortage of power in Delhi is primarily attributable to following:—

- (i) Shortage of peaking capacity.
- (ii) No capacity addition in DVB's generation capacity during past several years.
- (iii) Very high T&D losses exceeding 50%
- (iv) Transmission and Distribution bottlenecks within DVB system.
- (v) Low generation at DVB's power stations.
- (vi) Low voltage.

In view of the gap between availability of power and demand, particularly during peak hours, DVB resorts of load shedding mainly in the theft prone areas on day-to-day basis.

The measures being taken to improve the availability of power during summer months are (i) Higher allocation out of unallocated quota of Central Sector Stations in the Northern Region is made to Delhi, (ii) Maximisation of generation at DVB's power stations, (iii) Delhi is also expected to get 100-150 MW of power from the Eastern region after termination of 400 KV Biharsharif (ER)—Allahabad (NR) inter- regional double circuit line at Sarnath sub-station by April, 2001, (iv) DVB has also entered into an agreement with the Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board for supply of power to the extent of 150 MW during summer months, (v) DVB is also executing Pragati CCGT (330 MW) Project. The expected date of commissioning of the 1st Unit is January, 2002, for the 2nd Unit in March, 2002 and the complete plant by November, 2002 (vi) Negotiations are being made for purchase of power from the following projects:—

- Balihar Project (J&K)
- Allien Duhangan Project (HP)
- Dhamwari Sunda (HP)
- Dhauliganga Project

The power from the above projects is likely to be available progressively in the next 4-5 years.

Vacancy based Roster in the Ministry of Power

1251. VEN'BLE DHAMMAVIRIYO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court in case of R. K. Sabharwal Vs. State of Punjab has held that the Vacancy Based Rosters can operate only till such time the representation of persons belonging to the reserved categories reaches the prescribed percentage of reservation; and

(b) if so, indicate the services/posts under Ministry of Power and all its subordinate offices where the representation of persons belonging to the SC/ST categories has reached the prescribed percentage of reservation and because of which "Post Based Rosters" have been introduced in place of "Vacancy Based Rosters"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The post-based rosters are introduced in place of vacancy based rosters as per the directives contained in the Department of Personnel and Training's Office Memorandum No.36012/2/96-Estt (Res) dated 2.7.1997. The post-based roster is a mechanism to ensure that the reserved categories get their due share of posts upto the prescribed percentages of reservation for the concerned categories in line with the principles enunciated in the Supreme Court Judgement in R. K. Sabharwal case.

As a result, all the organizations including PSUs except Bhakra Beas Management Board (which follows Punjab State Government's reservation rules) under the administrative control of Ministry of Power have introduced Post based reservation rosters in Groups A, B, C and D services.

Setting up a hydro electric project

1252. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC is proposing to set up a hydro electric project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?